THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVE-LOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) and (b) The salient features of the Comprehensive Crop In-suprance Scheme (COS) are that it is an area based and credit linked scheme which is voluntary in nature. All farmers gnawing wheat, paddy, millets, oil-seeds and pulses by availing agricultural loans from the cooperative credit institutions, regional rural banks and commercial banks are eligible for crop coverage under the COS. The sum insured is equal to the crop loan disbursed and subject to- a maximum of Rs. 10,000|-per farmer. The premium payable fe 2 per cent (wheat, paddy and millets) and I per cent (oilseeds and pulses) of the sum insured. 50 per cent of the premium payable by small and marginal farmers is subsidized equally between Central and State Governments. Idemni-ty claims are shared between the Central and State Governments in the ration of 2:1. If the actual average yield in any area notified under this scheme falls short of guaranteed yield fixed for that area then the farmers who have availed agricultural loans for insured crops are entitled to a indemnity under the scheme to the extent of shortfall in the yield *vis-a-vis the* guaranteed yield.

(c) The indemnity daims payable to the farmers and the amount collected as premium from them during the last two years is as follows:—

Rs. in Lakhs

Pending for Payment by the Genaral Insurance Corporation of India due to non-receip

Sl. No.	Year	Amount of indemnity claims payable/ paid in Andhra Pradesh	Amount of premium collected by the GIC in Andhra Pradesh
1.	1988-89	225.62	195.58
2.	1989-90	1791.19*	380.45

of one-third share of the State Government.

Enquiry into the irregularities in purchase of gunny bags

612. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA; Will ths Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Secretary of NCCF Employees Union was involved in the irregularities in purchase of Gunny Bags at Morena; and

(b) whether any enquiry was held into the scandal and if so, what are the find-ings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to[1] part (a) above.

Non fulfilment of export obligation by NCCF

613. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NCCF had to pay a penalty of Rs. 2.00 lakhs to CCI&E, for non-fulfilment of his com mitment of export obligation in wheat-bran case on behalf of its Associate M|s. Regent International, World Trade Cen tre, Bombay;

(b) whether the corresponding Bank iguarantee of Rs. 2.00 lakhs furnished M|s. Regent International, Bombay, was not enforced and encashed by NCCF officials in its validity period for non performance of its Contract with NCCF;

(c) whether a Departmental enquiry Officer had held two officers of NCCF responsible for this default; and

(d) whether any action has been taken against those officers, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) Yes. Sir.

Co) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes. Sir.

(d) NCCF have reported that on the basis of fresh investigations conducted into the case , the then Dy. Manager (Imports and Exports) has been found responsible and that disciplinary action against him was initiated which is in progress with Commissioner of Departmental Inquiries Vigilance Commission.

Compensation paid to the victims of train fire accident

614. SHRl S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than hundred passengers were killed in the Mokameh-Arrah shuttle train on the 16th April. 1990 and subsequently some more injured died in the Hospitals; the exact number of those died in the said fire;

(b) whether it is also a fact that more of the dead and injured are office goers and sole bread earners of their respective families;

(c) if so, whether the compensation of Rs. 10,000/- on account of each dead and Rs. 2,000/- for each injured, as announced by Government are not grossly inadequate and much lower than the compensations paid by the Railways for the victims of rail accidents in the recent past; and

(d) if so. what is the rationale be hind these compensation amounts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) In the fire accident on 383 Up Mokama-Danapur Pass, on 16-4-90, 71 persons lost their lives on the spot and 3 persons died, subsequently, in the Hospitals.

(b) Some of ths dead injured were office goers but it is difficult to establish that they were the sole bread earners of their respective families.

(c) and (d) Rs. 10,000/- paid on ccount of each of th; 17 dead victims and Rs. 2,000|. on account of each of the 18 grievously injured persons, was only ex-gratia payment, not compensation. For the payment of claims compensation, applications have to be filed before the Railway Chains Tribunal. Mahendrughat, Patna. Notifications regarding the procedure for filing such applications have already been published in the newspapers

Enquiry committee's report on the acci dent of 383 Up Mokameh.Arrah shuttle train

615. SHRI S.S, AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that preliminary reports about the fire incidence in the ill fated 383 Up Mokameh-Arrahi shuttle train has indicated that highly in-flamable gas cylinders were being carried in the train which have exploded to cause the fire;

(b) if so. whether Government have taken any action against the concerned Railway officials who are responsible for the incident and to impose restrictions in carrying inflammable items in the trains; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not. the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The accident is being inquired into by the Com-missioner of Railway Safety. Appropriate action will be taken against the staff, if held responsible for the accident, on receipt of the Report of the Commissioner of Railway Safety.